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obscure, the substantial merits of the book—its comprehensiveness, completeness, fairness and soundness. The Author shows himself ever jealous for the honour of Assurance Institutions, and always, in intention, loyal to their best interests. He is earnest alike in his denunciation of irregularities within and in his exposure of delusions without, as well as honest in his eager preference for that sober moderation which in all things puts aside a present, if a doubtful, good, for a permanent, though deferred, success. The cause of Assurance cannot be the worse, it ought to be greatly the better for this work. How much it has been bettered in fact, it would be exceedingly difficult to say. After all the labour of so many able and honest men, and all the accumulated experience of both the true and the false in the practice of Assurance, it is at once a matter for surprise and mortification that there should have been brought about so small an abatement of public credulity; but, though matter for mortification, it is no matter for surprise that, the credulity remaining, official malpractice, designed to impose on it, should remain also.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ON THE VALUE OF A POLICY ON THE LONGEST OF TWO LIVES.

To the Editor of the Journal of the Institute of Actuaries.

SIR,—It has been demonstrated in the *Journal*, vol. xi., page 104, that the Value of the Policies existing in an Office is equal to the accumulated net Premiums less the claims. The application of this result to an ordinary Policy on a single life is shown in the formula $\frac{N_{x-1} - N_{x+n-1}}{D_{x+n}} \cdot \frac{M_x}{N_{x-1}} - \frac{M_x - M_{x+n}}{D_{x+n}}$, vol. xi., page 107, where $\frac{M_x}{N_{x-1}} = \varpi_x$.

This formula will also apply, by simply changing the values of M, N, D, and ϖ , to Policies of some other descriptions, viz., those where no alteration takes place in their status till their expiry or till claims arise on them, as for instance, Policies on Joint Lives, Endowment Assurances and Term Policies. But the formula will not be applicable, at least by a like simple modification, to the case of Policies, the status of which may be changed during their continuance, as that of Policies on the Longest of two lives, which may be changed by the dropping of one life.

I have thought a similar demonstration in the case of a Policy on the Longest of two lives to the one above referred to might not be without interest.

Let there be l_x lives of the age x and l_y of the age y , then the number of pairs which can be formed out of them, each containing a life aged x and a life aged y , is $l_x \times l_y$. Let this be expressed by $l_{x,y}$, so that in the following demonstration $l_{x,y}$ signifies $l_x \times l_y$. Let each of these $l_{x,y}$ pairs be assured for £1 payable on the last death, at an annual net Premium ϖ . Then the number of claims (that is, of pairs in which both lives become extinct) in the first year, will be $l_{x,y} - l_{x,y+1} - l_{x+1,y} + l_{x+1,y+1}$; and the sum reserved at the end of the first year for existing Policies will be

$$l_{x,y}\varpi(1+i) - (l_{x,y} - l_{x,y+1} - l_{x+1,y} + l_{x+1,y+1}) \quad (1)$$

But of the latter Policies there will be $l_{x+1,y} - l_{x+1,y+1}$, by which only sur-

viving single lives aged $x+1$ are assured, and $l_{x,y+1}-l_{x+1,y+1}$, by which only single lives aged $y+1$ are assured. The value of these Policies will be

$$(l_{x+1,y}-l_{x+1,y+1})\{1-(d+\omega)(1+a_{x+1})\} \\ + (l_{x,y+1}-l_{x+1,y+1})\{1-(d+\omega)(1+a_{y+1})\} \quad (2)$$

which deducted from (1) will give the value of the Policies on the $l_{x+1,y+1}$ surviving pairs of lives.

The investigation of this for the first year is as follows:

In $(l_{x+1,y}-l_{x+1,y+1})\{1-(d+\omega)(1+a_{x+1})\}$

$$l_{x+1,y}(1+a_{x+1})=l_{x,y} \cdot \frac{l_{x+1}}{l_x} (1+a_{x+1})=(1+i)l_{x,y}a_x$$

$$\therefore -l_{x+1,y}\{1-(d+\omega)(1+a_{x+1})\}=-l_{x+1,y}+(1+i)l_{x,y}(d+\omega)a_x$$

$$\text{and } -l_{x,y+1}\{1-(d+\omega)(1+a_{y+1})\}=-l_{x,y+1}+(1+i)l_{x,y}(d+\omega)a_y$$

The sum of these is

$$-l_{x+1,y}-l_{x,y+1}+(1+i)l_{x,y}(d+\omega)(a_x+a_y)$$

and the other terms of (2), with their signs changed, are equal to

$$l_{x+1,y+1}(A_{x+1}+A_{y+1})-l_{x+1,y+1}(2+a_{x+1}+a_{y+1})\omega.$$

$$\text{Again, } A_{x+1,y+1}l_{x+1,y+1}=A_{x,y}l_{x,y}(1+i)-(l_{x,y}-l_{x+1,y+1}) \quad (a)$$

$$\text{and } (a_{x+1,y+1}+1)l_{x+1,y+1}=a_{x,y}l_{x,y}(1+i) \quad (b)$$

If all the terms of (1), and (2) as above modified, are collected and $A_{x+1,y+1}l_{x+1,y+1}$ and $(a_{x+1,y+1}+1)l_{x+1,y+1}$ are added and subtracted according to equations (a) and (b), the result is

$$-l_{x,y}+l_{x+1,y}+l_{x,y+1}-l_{x+1,y+1}-l_{x+1,y}-l_{x,y+1} \\ + (1+i)l_{x,y}d(a_x+a_y)+(1+i)l_{x,y}A_{x,y}-l_{x,y}+l_{x+1,y+1} \\ + (1+i)l_{x,y}\omega+(1+i)l_{x,y}(a_x+a_y)\omega-(1+i)l_{x,y}a_{x,y}\omega^* \\ + l_{x+1,y+1}(A_{x+1}+A_{y+1}-A_{x+1,y+1})-l_{x+1,y+1}(1+a_{x+1}+a_{y+1}-a_{x+1,y+1})\omega.$$

$$\text{Now } l_{x,y}=(1+i)v l_{x,y} \text{ and } A_x=v-(1-v)a_x=v-da_x$$

$$\therefore -2l_{x,y}+(1+i)l_{x,y}d(a_x+a_y)+(1+i)l_{x,y}A_{x,y} \\ =-(1+i)l_{x,y}\{2v-d(a_x+a_y)-A_{x,y}\} \\ =-(1+i)l_{x,y}(A_x+A_y-A_{x,y})$$

$$\text{Also } \omega = \frac{A_x+A_y-A_{x,y}}{1+a_x+a_y-a_{x,y}}$$

$$\therefore (1+i)l_{x,y}(1+a_x+a_y-a_{x,y})\omega=(1+i)l_{x,y}(A_x+A_y-A_{x,y})$$

Therefore the sum of the terms in the above result before the asterisk (*) vanishes, and the remaining terms divided by $l_{x+1,y+1}$ are equal to

$$A_{x+1}+A_{y+1}-A_{x+1,y+1}-(1+a_{x+1}+a_{y+1}-a_{x+1,y+1})\omega,$$

the formula for the value of a Policy on the longest of two lives.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

7, Royal Exchange,
June, 1868.

THOS. CARR.